

REMARKS

After entry of this Amendment, claims 1-11 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 10 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 11 has been added in this Amendment. Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

In the Office Action dated August 20, 2003, the Examiner objected to the drawings by indicating that Figures 1 through 4 should be labeled as prior art. Corrected substitute drawings accompanying this Amendment including the legend "prior art" for Figures 1 through 4 of the drawings. Reconsideration of the Examiner's objection to the drawings is requested.

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The specific objections raised by the Examiner have been reviewed and amended in order to clarify the language of the claims. Many of the proposed changes by Patent Examiner have been adopted. Claim 1 has been amended to now recite that the outer edges of the claw feet are offset longitudinally toward the pivot of the claw bow and underlie no more than half of the bearing surface. Claim 11 has been added to further clarify that the outer edges of the claw feet are offset longitudinally toward the pivot of the claw bow to a location equal to or greater than the inner edge of the bearing surface. It is submitted that the amendments to the claims in the present application traverse and overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection is requested.

It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment traverses and overcomes all of the Examiner's objections and rejections to the application as originally filed. It is further submitted that this Amendment has antecedent basis in the application as originally filed, including the specification, claims and drawings, and that this Amendment does not add any new subject matter to the application. Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested. It is respectfully

Application Serial No. 10/070,066
Date November 20, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated August 20,2003

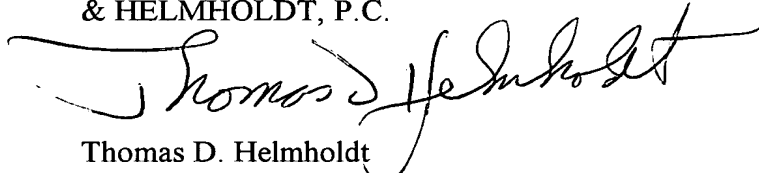
Page 7 of 7

submitted that this Amendment places the application in suitable condition for allowance; notice of which is requested.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present application can be expedited by way of an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG, BASILE, HANLON, MacFARLANE, WOOD
& HELMHOLDT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas D. Helmholdt", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas D. Helmholdt
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 33181
(248) 649-3333

3001 West Big Beaver Rd., Suite 624
Troy, Michigan 48084-3107

Dated: November 20, 2003
TDH/cmp